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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7398

BILL NUMBER: SB 451

NOTE PREPARED: Apr 20, 2007

BILL AMENDED: Apr 2, 2007

SUBJECT: Emergency Communication Disorder Permits.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Becker

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Reardon

BILL STATUS: Enrolled

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows the Department of Education to issue an emergency communication disorder permit to an individual to serve the needs of certain students who are eligible for speech and language services. It makes technical corrections.

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The Department of Education could have some additional cost associated with the issuing of emergency communication order permits. The additional cost would probably be minor and could be funded from the current appropriation. For FY 2005, the Department issued 47 emergency communication disorder permits.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: (Revised) The bill could make it easier for schools to find teachers for students with communication disorders.

To receive an emergency communication disorder permit a individual must:

1. Have a bachelor's degree or its equivalent in speech, language, and hearing sciences.
2. Be enrolled in a graduate program in communication disorders.

The emergency licensed individual may not provide services beyond the scope of the individual's education and training. The individual shall have access to a licensed speech-language pathologist for collaboration on provision of services at no additional costs to the school. The individual also can not use a title that state

or implies that the individual is a licensed speech-language pathologist.

Background: For the 2005-2006 school year, there were about 1,214 speech language pathologists serving about 50,785 students. Based on a survey conducted by the Department of Education for the 2006-2007 school year, schools have about 109.5 positions that remain unfilled and currently contract for about 103.7 positions.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Department of Education Databases.

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